

## Message Text

SECRET

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14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-11 EUR-12 /087 W

----- 045691

P R 081155Z JAN 76 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7625

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGERIAS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

ALL OAU CAPITALS 0004

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 0233

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAU AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: GLIMPSES OF OAU VIEWS

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY AT DINNER LAST NIGHT (JAN 7) TO TALK FRANKLY AND PRIVATELY WITH CROSS-SECTION OF OAU DIGNITARIES INCLUDING: DEPUTY HEAD OF ALGERIAN DEL, EGYPTIAN MINSTATE RIAD, TANZANIAN FONMIN, ETHIOPIAN FONMIN, SUDAN AMB AND CAMEROON AMB AS WELL AS SEC GEN ETEKI.

2. NOBODY WILL PLACE ANY BETS ON TOTAL PRO-MPLA VOTES AT TIME OF SUMMIT JAN 10. CHAD'S DEFECTION MAKES 20 IN FAVOR. TWENTY-FOUR WOULD GIVE MAJORITY, WHICH IF IT REMAINS SOLID COULD BE PROCEDURAL VOTE INDETERMINE THAT TWO-THIRDS VOTE NOT REQUIRED. IN ANY CASE, ALL SEEM AGREED THAT MINISTERS MEETING WILL NOT TAKE ANY ACTION THAT FORECLOSES ANY OPTIONS FOR SUMMIT. PRESENT MINISTERIAL MEETINGS ARE MERELY GROPING TO DEFINE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR SUMMIT DISCUSSIONS.

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3. MODERATES (EGYPT, CAMEROON, ETC) ARE RATHER DESPERATELY TRYING TO FORMULATE A POSITION THAT COULD AVOID ANY STANDUP CONFRONTATION BY PRO AND ANTI MPLA VOTES. EGYPTIAN MINSTATE HAS SUCH A PLAN BUT DECLINED TO DESCRIBE IT TO ME, AND WAS NOT AT ALL SURE IT WOULD WORK. HE SAID HE HAD MADE IT KNOWN TO AMB EILTS IN CAIRO. MODERATES SAY THAT DURING DINNER THEY OBTAINED COMMITMENT FROM ETHIOPIAN FONMIN TO HELP WORK TOWARD "NO-VOTE" SOLUTION.

4. HOSTILES (ALGERIAN, TANZANIAN, SUDANESE, AND PERHAPS ETEKI) DO NOT YET CLAIM VICTORY FOR PRO-MPLA FORCES, BT ARE OBVIOUSLY HELPFUL. TO FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS (SOUTH AFRICA IN MAIN ENEMY; NETO WILL NEVER BE COMMUNIST SO WHY WORRY ABOUT SOVS AND CUBANS) THEY ARE NOW ADDING OTHERS IN PRIVATE THAT THEY PERHAPS WOULD NOT PUT INTO WRITING. (A) IT IS PERSONALITIES OF LEADERS THAT COUNTS THE MOST; NETO IS GOOD MAN, ROBERTO IS NO GOOD, AND SAVIMBI WHILE BETTER IS BADLY TAINTED BY RELIANCE OF SOUTH AFRICA. (B) IDEA OF REFERENDUM IS UNREALISTIC IN ANGOLA WHERE IGNORANT TRIBAL PEOPLE WOULD NOT KNOW WHAT THEY ARE VOTING FOR, AND THEREFORE FACT THAT ONLY MINORITY OF ANGOLAN PEOPLE ARE IN AREA CONTROLLED BY MPLA IS IRRELEVANT.

5. SECRETARY'S LETTER TO ETEKI (NOT YET CIRCULATED OFFICIALLY AND ETEKI WAS EVASIVE ON WHETHER IT WOULD BE, BUT IT HAD BEEN SEEN BY A NUMBER O OAU DELS) WAS CRITICIZED BY PRO-MPLA PEOPLE. CHIEF COMPLAINT IS THAT USG HAS UNWARRANTEDLY TRIED TO DEFINE A SOLUTION IN TERMS OF "GOVT OF NATIONAL UNITY" WHEREAS IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE PROPER AND HELPFUL TO USE LOOSER LANGUAGE "PEACEFUL SOLUTION". THIS OF COURSE IS BIASED NONSENSE, AND IN SEVERAL VIGOROUS EXCHANGES I HAVE POINTED OUT THAT I HAVE NOT HEARD ANALAGOUS CRITICISMS OF HIGHLY PRESCRIPTIVE SOVIET SOLUTION; THAT OBVIOUSLY A DOUBLE STANDARD IS BEING USED, AND I MUST CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS NO CONCEIVABLE WAY IN WHICH ANY USG POLICY PRONOUNCEMENT COULD FIND ANY FAVOR, SHORT OF OUTRIGHT SUPPORT OF MPLA. SUCH VERBAL SKIRMISHING WITH OPPONENTS OF US POLICY MAY DO LITTLE GOOD, BUT SEEMS TO BE TAKEN IN GOOD SPIRIT.  
HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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